**Young 5s and Kindergarten**  **December 11, 2017**

**What we’re learning!**

**Phonics**

**Whole class**: This week, we’ll focus on the letter ‘O’ and sort pictures that begin with the /o/ sound. We’ll sort uppercase ‘O’ and lowercase ‘o’ as well.

**Kindergarten**: Students will practice identifying the beginning sounds of words and building and writing sight words.

**Y5:** Students will practice sorting words based on the number of syllables. We’ll also practice identifying word families in words.

**Reading:** Our unit this week will focus on “The Gingerbread Man” by Paul Galdone. We will practice identifying the characters, setting, problem, and solution of the story. Our vocabulary words are **sniff, threshing, field, strut, and dared.**

**Handwriting:** This week, we’ll practice tracing and writing letters A-C.

**Writing:** This week, we’ll learn how to write sentences about who we love and what we know. We’ll continue to practice using our tools (alphabet chart, sight word chart, and Word Wall).

**Math**

**Kindergarten:** We’ll practice identifying shapes by feel and using pattern block shapes to make hexagons. We’ll also graph our favorite colors and decompose and compose numbers using ten frames.

**Y5:** We’ll practice matching numbers to pictures of dice and sets of counters. We’ll also graph our favorite colors.

**Science**

**Kindergarten:** We will continue to review what students learned about motion, pushes, and pulls from their PLTW unit.

**Y5:** Students really enjoyed learning about owls and what birds eat, from seeds to hunting for prey. This week, we’ll learn about cardinals and blue jays and review where birds live.

**Social Studies:**

**Kindergarten:** We’ll create a chart showing the several places we are in at one time (classroom, Carpenter, Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States).

**Young 5s:** We’ll review how to communicate our feelings appropriately.

**Important Dates**

* **Penguin Patch Shopping 10am on Friday, December 15.**
* **Winter Break: Monday, December 25-January 7.**
* **PizzaHut Book It calendars are due Tuesday, January 9.**

**Tips/Strategies**

\*I highly recommend that your child spends at least 10-15 minutes a night reading with you. Ask your child to identify letters and sight words on each page. This will help them become a strong reader.

\*I also suggest that you practice counting 1-50 with your child and asking them to identify letters, words, numbers, and shapes in the world around them.

* If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me: **vansteel@aaps.k12.mi.us.**

**Sight words to review:**

* **one**
* **two**
* **three**

\*We’ll practice identifying, sorting, reading, and writing these words as well as making them with magnetic letters.

Owl Aboard!

Ms. Van’s Newsletter